



MONTANA
AMERICAN INDIAN
CAUCUS

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SENATE JUDICIARY

Exhibit No. 8

Date 4-3-07

Bill No. HB 281

April 3, 2007

Senate Judiciary Committee:

The American Indian Caucus of the 60th Legislative Session of the State of Montana opposes HB 281, a bill that revises voter registration deadlines. This bill, if passed, would end late voter registration at noon the Friday before an election

American Indian people have only been allowed to vote for 82 years. Many of our Indian people went to war & died before they had the right to vote. We will not disenfranchise people who have been disenfranchised for so long. **841 Indians would not have voted without same day registration.**

We will not vote for a bill that will restrict a person's constitutional right to participate in their government. We also see that simple structural changes and better communication could improve same day registration.

Respectfully submitted,

American Indian Caucus
60th Legislative Session